

State Board of Education Ceremonial Resolution Honoring National School Library Month CR21-9

WHEREAS, April is designated as National School Library Month by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and was first organized in April of 1985;

WHEREAS, the purpose of National School Library Month is to recognize, celebrate, and uplift the great profession of school librarians;

WHEREAS, National School Library Month promotes the public participation in recognizing school librarians as essential advocates and resources in their schools and communities;

WHEREAS, in April 2021, the theme for School Library Month is Welcome to Your Library;

WHEREAS, school libraries provide access to materials for teachers and students that will encourage growth and knowledge as well as develop literary, cultural, and ethical standards;

WHEREAS, there are more than 100 full-time school-based librarians in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, the DC Public Schools FY2022 Comprehensive Staffing Model recommends schools with 300 or more students to receive 1 full-time library media specialist; and

WHEREAS, National School Library Month will be commemorated this year virtually on the American Association of School Librarians' social media, as well as with socially-distant events like the outdoor reading event hosted and attended by members of the D.C. State Board of Education and other elected representatives on April 14.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the D.C. State Board of Education calls for the full and equitable funding of librarians to ensure every student in the District has access to a properly funded and regularly updated library collection with flourishing library programs staffed by certified librarians, as library workers are core to student learning, to families, and to teachers collaborating for student achievement; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that on the occasion of National School Library Month, the D.C. State Board of Education celebrates the school librarians and library workers in the District, as certified school librarians are essential contributors to our District learning communities.

Zachary Parker, President

Date